

Airmen work to renovate AFTH

By Staff Sgt. **Tammie Moore**
332nd AEW Public Affairs

Airmen from across the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing are revamping the Air Force Theater Hospital creating a brighter and safer environment for patients and providers.

The 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron, 332nd Expeditionary Communications Squadron and the 332nd Expeditionary Medical Support Squadron have the lead roles in the project, which is designed to improve patient flow, relocate the specialty clinics and replace the current tents, which are fire hazards.

"Without the help of the 332nd ECES, 332nd ECS and the volunteers, the success we have experienced thus far would not be possible," said Lt. Col. Patrick Dawson, 332nd EMDSS commander and AFTH administrator. "The motivation and morale of the more than 120 people helping with this project is high. There is a great amount of synergy going on here; this is teamwork at its best."

The project, which will replace 95 percent of the AFTH tents, about 35,000 square feet of tent space, began Oct. 30 and is expected to be completed by Dec. 1, if the weather remains agreeable.

"Our goal is to not lose any medical and surgical capabil-

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Photo by Staff Sgt. Shannon Kluge

Airman 1st Class Jeremie Wilson, 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron, prepares a concrete pad during renovations at the Air Force Theater Hospital.

Ready for lift off



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Eyes on Balad



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Powering the mission



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Photo by Master Sgt. John E. Lasky

Ready for lift off

Two F-16 Fighting Falcons taxi toward the end of a Balad Air Base runway inspection area. The crews and F-16s here perform sorties in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE

As a service for Balad Airmen, the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing operates the Commander's Action Line program. The line is a way for Balad Air Base members to get answers to questions or express concerns about life on the base. Brig. Gen. Frank Gorenc, 332nd AEW commander, gives action line queries his personal attention. The *Red Tail Flyer* will publish those items judged to be of general interest to the Balad Air Base population. In addition to using the commander's action line, Balad Airmen are asked to remember their chain of command when dealing with problems and concerns. The Commander's Action Line can be reached via e-mail at redtailflyer@blab.centaf.af.mil. Those using the action line should include name, unit and phone number in case additional information is needed and for a timely response.

Brig. Gen. Frank Gorenc, 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing commander, greets Gen. Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong, Commander U.S. Air Forces in Europe, Thursday.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Chad Watkins

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<http://www.afnews.af.mil/iraq/baladarchive/current.pdf>



Photo by Airman 1st Class Chad Watkins

By dawn's last light

Staff Sergeant Michael Miller, 332nd Expeditionary Communications Squadron, and Staff Sergeant Sean Hannah, 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, perform the "Overs" maneuver while practicing drill for the Balad Air Base Honor Guard.

Survey helps shape future

The 2005 Air Force Climate Survey providing Airmen an opportunity to shape the future of the Air Force is under way.

"The climate survey is a simple way to make our Air Force better," said Gen. Frank Gorenc, 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing commander. "All we want is honest answers to very direct questions. You have nothing to lose but everything to gain."

The survey, themed "Speak Today, Shape Tomorrow," provides a unique total force perspective and includes active-duty, Reserve, Air National Guard and both appropriated and nonappropriated fund civilians.

Identities of participants are protected.

"We have used the most advanced information-masking reporting software available to ensure your identity will be protected," said Gen. T. Michael Moseley, Air Force Chief of Staff. "The questions in the survey itself are intentionally hard-hitting, and I fully expect your direct, honest

and candid feedback."

In past surveys, respondents provided feedback on issues affecting their organizations' ability to perform the mission. This year, respondents are being asked to provide feedback on their immediate supervisor's enduring competencies. The Air Force's enduring competencies are the personal, managerial and leadership qualities that should be common to all Air Force members. These results will provide leaders with a baseline of the competencies used for force development.

"It's your chance to provide honest and straightforward answers to issues that directly affect you and your fellow Airmen," said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald R. Murray.

The survey is available and can be accessed, from work or at home, through Nov. 23 online at <https://afclimatesurvey.af.mil>. (Courtesy of the Air Force Manpower Agency)

BALAD AIR BASE NEWS NOTES

Angelz visit Balad

The Purrfect Angelz are scheduled to perform Sunday in the H6 Rec Tent at 2 p.m. and the Sustainer Theater at 8 p.m.

Red Tail Library Hours

The Red Tail Library in H6 is open seven days a week from 6 a.m. to midnight. The library has free books, books for checkout and computers for educational use.

Mailing deadlines

Individuals who wish to mail holiday greetings home should send their parcel post and space available mail by Nov. 19 and priority and first class letters and cards by Dec. 6.

Thanksgiving service

A Thanksgiving service is scheduled to be held in Town Hall Nov. 24 at 11 a.m. For more information call 443-7703.

Diamond Sharp Awards

Congratulations to the Diamond Sharp award winners: 332nd Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron, Senior Airman Courtney Lewis; 332nd Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron, Senior Airman Lucas Newman; 332nd Expeditionary Operational Support Squadron, Airman 1st Class Raymond Cartagena Jr.; and 332nd Expeditionary Services Squadron, Airman 1st Class Michael Young.

Red Tail Safety Awards

Congratulations to the Red Tail Safety award winners for October. 332nd Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron: Airman 1st Class Shane Martin, Staff Sgt. Philip Krug, Tech. Sgt. Michael Knight, Master Sgt. Michael Dufresne and Master Sgt. William Lanicek; 332nd Expeditionary Operational Support Squadron: Senior Airman Gary Egelston; 555th Fighter Squadron: Master Sgt. Michael Hunson and Captain Stephen Fekete.

Airmen with the 332nd Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron monitor all air traffic coming into and out of Balad Air Base and LSA Anaconda.



Photo by Senior Airman Bryan Franks

Keeping eyes on Balad

By Senior Airman **Bryan Franks**
332nd AEW Public Affairs

A director producing a blockbuster film must know where each actor and camera is at all times to ensure the right shot. Air traffic controllers from the 332nd Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron must be just as diligent to ensure aircraft take off and land safely at Balad.

The 332nd EOSS air traffic controllers are responsible for all moving vehicles on the airfield and aircraft in the skies around Balad, said 1st Lt. Erin Decker, 332nd EOSS Airfield Flight Operations officer.

The area of responsibility for the tower is five miles around Balad and up to 3,000 feet above the installation, she said. The controllers make sure all air traffic is out of harms way while simultaneously managing the ground traffic on the airfield.

"The tower is one of two units responsible for all flights in and out of Balad," Lieutenant Decker said. "A tower crew is made up of four members, each with different tasks to ensure traffic flows smoothly."

The local controller is responsible for

all runway and air traffic. The ground controller handles all vehicle traffic on the airfield including taxiing aircraft. The flight data controller is the point person for contact between different air traffic agencies and coordinates between local and ground controllers. The watch supervisor monitors all the communication between the three controllers, aircraft and vehicles.

The controllers are all qualified to work local, ground and flight data positions. However, in addition to monitoring communications the watch supervisor is on hand to give the controllers a break when needed.

"Our team has to watch each other's backs," said Staff Sgt. Drew Spradley, 332nd EOSS watch supervisor. "A lot rides on the fact that we have to get it right every time."

More than 500 flight operations take place each day through Balad's tower and more than 25,000 ground operations occur a month.

"I like air traffic control; it's always different up here," said Senior Airman Sean

Strong, 332nd EOSS air traffic controller. "Every day there is something challenging happening. Being the local controller is the most challenging and fun part of being an air traffic controller. You have to take everything you learned and put it together and try not to let the stress bother you."

On some of the tower teams the Australian Royal Air Force air traffic controllers work alongside the American controllers.

"I think it's a great experience to work in a joint environment," said Flying Officer Catherine Rubin, Australian Royal Air Force air traffic controller. "It's a chance to learn and share different procedures and improve them."

The controllers' days are full of activity, working one of the busiest airfields in the Operation Iraqi Freedom area of responsibility.

"Working in the tower really makes the days go by faster," said Senior Airman Leslie Alonso, 332nd EOSS, air traffic controller. "I love being an air traffic controller. I wouldn't want any other job."



Photos by Staff Sgt. Tammie Moore

Airman 1st Class Mark Baugh, 727th Expeditionary Air Control Squadron, documents a generator inspection. The 727th EACS generators outside of the compound are inspected every three hours.

Working to keep power running

By Staff Sgt. **Tammie Moore**
332nd AEW Public Affairs

Airmen at the 727th Expeditionary Air Control Squadron's aerospace ground equipment and heating ventilation and air conditioning shop have the fast-paced job of maintaining generators allowing the Air Force to support ground troops throughout Iraq.

"Power generation is the backbone of what we do in this unit," said Master Sgt. Dave Durako, 727th Expeditionary Air Control Squadron NCOIC of the AGE/HVAC element. "By accomplishing our job we enable the rest of our unit to accomplish their missions."

The AGE/HVAC shop ensures power is maintained in the 727th EACS compound and for two additional radar units located on Balad Air Base, none of which operate on the base's generator systems. The 10 AGE and two HVAC technicians assigned here maintain and monitor 40 generators powering systems.

"Our power systems are used to provide the entire radar air picture to the Combined Air Operations Center, allowing them to make informed decisions," Sergeant Durako said. "If someone on the business end of our capabilities loses power, we are running to get it back up. We can't wait 15 or 20 minutes when there might be a call coming in for close air sup-



Staff Sgt. Josh Clodfelter, 727th Expeditionary Air Control Squadron, checks engine oil level on a generator.

port. We have to fix the problem ASAP."

Keeping a steady supply of power flowing from the generators is a full time job for the Airman assigned to the shop.

One of the Airmen working to ensure power outages don't occur is Staff Sgt. Josh Clodfelter, 727th EACS HVAC refrigeration craftsman.

"Getting the work done as fast as possible is the most important aspect of my job here," Sergeant Clodfelter said.

A typical work day here involves maintaining generators on-site and around the base making sure everything is running well, Sergeant Clodfelter said.

The Airmen visit the generators outside the squadron compound every three hours to check their condition; if maintenance is needed it becomes the top priority of the team.

To ensure these Airmen are ready for the demands of operating in a deployed environment, they train together in the field regularly before deploying allowing them to operate as a well oiled machine.

"Unlike many air and space expeditionary rotations, we deploy as a complete team from our home station," Sergeant Durako said. "Everyone at the 727th EACS right now is from Hill Air Force Base, Utah."

After two years in the Air Force, Airman 1st Class Mark Baugh, 727th EACS AGE technician, is here on his first deployment.

"I knew what to expect when I got here because we go to the field to train so often," Airman Baugh said.

All of the preparation at home has paid off for the team.

"We have been able to keep the equipment going without having any real down time since we arrived here," Airman Baugh said.

Life Skills offers help quitting tobacco

By Staff Sgt. **Tammie Moore**
332nd AEW Public Affairs

The Great American Smoke Out is Thursday. It is designed to encourage smokers the opportunity to put aside tobacco use for at least 24 hours.

When people leave for a deployment, they may intend to spend their time away from home bettering their health and quitting tobacco for good, said Maj. William Isler, 332nd Expeditionary Aeromedical Squadron Life Skills flight chief. These plans can quickly be forgotten due to the demanding nature of our jobs here. For those who have not already started down this path, the Great American Smoke Out day provides the perfect time to start.

There are many reasons services members may chose to quit smoking or chewing while here, he said.

An advantage of becoming tobacco free in a deployed setting includes the removal of smoking cues such as people and places that trigger the desire to indulge back home, Major Isler said. "In addition, if you can quit under the stress of this place you should be able to remain tobacco free when you leave."

The Life Skills office offers many tips to help those interested in quitting tobacco.

"Set a quit date," Major Isler said. "To make this a success, make sure you run out of tobacco on your last day. Tell your family and friends you plan to quit, and ask for their support and encouragement. Ask them not to offer you cigarettes.

"If you don't run out of tobacco by your quit date, throw your tobacco away," Major Isler said. "If you keep these around, sooner or later you'll break down and smoke one. Make it easier on yourself, throw them away."

Making changes in habits can also help individuals kick the urge to light up.

Try using cigarette substitutes like chewing gum or hard candy, Major Isler said. "You may not know what to do with your hands for a while, so keep them busy. Pick up a book or try a new hobby that involves the use of your hands such as drawing or jigsaw puzzles."

If personal efforts alone are not working, nicotine replacement therapy might help.

This technique allows smokers to quit smoking using a three-step process, Major Isler said. "The steps include breaking the physical addiction to nicotine while breaking the habits and psychological factors associated with tobacco use. Nicotine replacement helps manage the nicotine addiction and withdrawal symptoms so you can focus on breaking the habit. Your health care provider can prescribe nicotine substitutes which almost double your chances of quitting for good.

"We are here to assist you in any way we can as you quit tobacco," Major Isler said. "If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask, we are here to serve you."

For more information, visit the Life Skills Clinic or call 443-7306.

AFTH, from Page 1

ities whatsoever during this move," Colonel Dawson said. "We want to keep all of our resources active to be 100 percent mission ready at all times. Our 332nd EMDSS tent replacement plan project officers, Capt. Chess Martin and Capt. Jonathan Richards, and our operational planners, Master Sgt. Robert Velez and Master Sgt. Greg Hackworth, have done a tremendous job in the plan's execution. They have created a 'well oiled machine' atmosphere in the execution of the plan."

Planning for the move involved a lot of coordination between the three squadrons, each bring a unique expertise to the task.

"When all is said and done the 332nd ECS troops will have laid six miles of cable," Colonel Dawson said.

Three sections of the communications squadron are assisting to make the transition as seamless as possible.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shannon Kluge

Senior Airman Brendan Campbell, 332nd Civil Engineering Squadron, lends a hand in the removal of Air Force Theater Hospital sandbags.

The voice section is working to connect the phone and network wires, said Captain Currier, 332nd ECS. The network management troops are configuring the switches and encryption devices and the radio troops will install the public address system.

One of the projects 332nd CES Airmen are working on is a drainage system to take water away from the facility during the rainy season, Colonel Dawson said.

"The communications and civil engineering Airmen have really stepped up to help us," Colonel Dawson said,

In addition, volunteers have been readily available to help with tasks such as moving patients and medical equipment from several ICUs wards during tent replacement phases. Along with Airmen from the three squadrons, the volunteers will place 80,000 sand bags around the facility and are projected to use over 1,000 tons of dirt as force protection HESKO barriers around the tents.

"We are very appreciative of this help, the teamwork is outstanding," Colonel Dawson said. "This has become more than a hospital project — it has become a wing project."

Reaching the top

AF names 6 Balad Airman as chief selects

By Command Chief Master Sgt. **Layton Clark**
332nd AEW Command Chief

We promote to potential, not based upon our past experience but rather based upon what we will do in the future. Chiefs are senior leaders in today's Air Force. They operate in the tactical, operational and strategic levels of leadership depending upon whether they are assigned to the unit, group, wing, major commands, or Air Staff and joint levels.

At the wing and below they are operational and tactical leaders. Some Chiefs are functionally oriented — some are generalists — few are one or the other of these orientations, most are both.

Many are as educated as their commanders, but chose a different path to effect the mission — Chiefs couple the people to the mission and to the commander's vision and intent. Chiefs are at their best among the people leading, mentoring and shaping.

Promotion to the highest enlisted grade is a huge step in their career and one where they find they don't have duty hours anymore. They are where the people and the commander need them to be using referent power and experience that comes with the position. They don't get to pick where they are assigned — they go where the Air Force needs them. Chiefs don't say what people want them to say — they say what needs to be said.

The Chief's Chevron, with its third rocker, should not be looked upon as a house with a completed roof so that the Chief can now sit back and rest, but should be looked at as a roof where you can get the troops in out of the rain when you need to.

The Chief's stripes don't belong to them. They belong to the

commander and to the troops. Use them wisely.

Congratulate these Chief Selects! Let them know you look forward to great work from them as Air Force providers and advocates of Combat Airpower for America — Right Here, Right Now!

And the selectees are...

Congratulations to the following senior master sergeants assigned to Balad Air Base who were selected for promotion to chief master sergeant:

Jeffrey Hannaford

332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron

Kevin McCoy

332nd Expeditionary Medical Group

Steven Woodside

737th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron

Kevin Peters

732nd Expeditionary Mission Support Group

Charles Fletcher

777th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron

Richard Graves

506th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron

BALAD AIR BASE UNIFORM TIPS

Long-sleeved black T-shirts, turtle-necks or thermals may be worn under the official Air Force physical training uniform T-shirt during inclement weather until the official Air Force PT long-sleeved style undergarment is available. Guidelines on long-sleeved T-shirt wear can be found in 332 AEW 36-2903 [Dress and Personal Appearance Standards], section three.

Balad AB Religious Schedule

Protestant - Traditional

Sundays
9:30 a.m. Provider Chapel, 10 a.m. Freedom Chapel, 5:30 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel

Protestant - Gospel

Sundays
11 a.m. - Sustainer Indoor Theater, 11:30 Freedom Chapel, 7 p.m. - Provider Chapel

Protestant- Praise and Worship

Sundays
9:30 a.m. Sustainer Indoor Theater, 6:30 p.m. Moral and Warfare Recreation Tent 29th SPT BN
Sundays and Wednesdays
7 p.m. Freedom Chapel

Protestant - Contemporary

Sundays
10 a.m. 299th FSB Tent Chapel, 11 a.m. Town Hall
Latter Day Saints

Sundays

1p.m. Provider Chapel, 7 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel

Liturgical- Protestant

Sundays

7:30 a.m. Hospital, 8 a.m. Provider Chapel
Samoan Congregational Service

Sundays

4 p.m. Provider Chapel

Roman Catholic Mass

Mondays through Fridays

7 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel

Saturdays

5 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (4:45 p.m. Reconciliation)

Sundays

8:30 a.m. Freedom Chapel, 9 a.m. Tuskegee Chapel, 11 a.m. Provider Chapel, 3:30 p.m. "626" Chapel (for Special Ops personnel only)

Church of Christ

Sunday

2 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel

Islamic Prayer

Fridays

1:30 p.m. Provider Chapel

Jewish Prayer

Fridays

6:30 p.m. Provider Chapel Annex

Know what this is?



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tammie Moore

If you can identify the object, send us an e-mail at redtailflyer@blab.centaf.af.mil. Last week's photo was most correctly identified first by Tech. Sgt. Jason Kretschmer, 332nd Expeditionary Operational Support Squadron, as a picture of Saddam Hussein's mustache from the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing headquarters building.



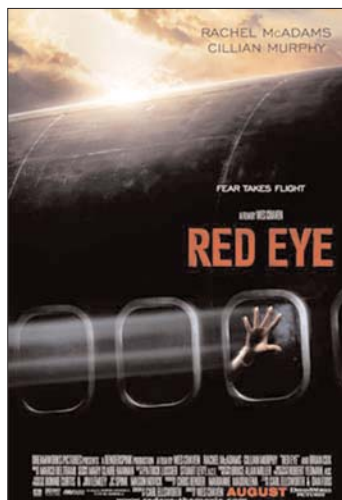
Courtesy photo

Silent Heroes

Master Sgt. Emanuel Thornton, 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, is this week's "Silent Hero." Sergeant Thornton was chosen because he mentors his troops and leads by example as a flight leader should, said Command Chief Master Sgt. Layton Clark, 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Command Chief.

Sustainer movie schedule

Schedule is subject to change



Today

3 p.m. - March of the Penguins
6 p.m. - The Weather Man
(Premier showing)
9 p.m. - The Weather Man
Midnight - The Weather Man

Saturday, Nov. 12

3 p.m. - The Cave
6 p.m. - The Weather Man
9 p.m. - Red Eye

Sunday, Nov. 13

3 p.m. - The Weather Man
6 p.m. - Red Eye
9 p.m. - The 40 Year-Old Virgin

Monday, Nov. 14

3 p.m. - The 40 Year-Old Virgin
6 p.m. - The Weather Man
9 p.m. - The Cave

Tuesday, Nov. 15

3 p.m. - Red Eye
6 p.m. - The 40 Year-Old Virgin
9 p.m. - The Weather Man

Wednesday, Nov. 16

3 p.m. - The Cave
6 p.m. - The Weather Man
9 p.m. - March of the Penguins

Thursday, Nov. 17

3 p.m. - The Weather Man
6 p.m. - Red Eye
9 p.m. - The 40 Year-Old Virgin

